

Application No. 10/044,106

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 remain pending in the application. The specification has been amended by correcting a typographical error pointed out by the Examiner.

The rejection of claims 1, 6, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,625,773 of Boivie et al., is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner cites Fig. 1, lines 37-43 of column 3 and lines 17-31 of column 4 in support of the rejection. The figure and the cited passages only concern standard IP multicast routing for packets that are being forwarded by the network. On the other hand, all of the pending claims concern in the distribution of routes, which would include the next hop addresses, to routers. The routes provide the information to the routers that is necessary to forward packets. What Boivie et al. describe in the cited passages of US 6,625,773 is simply looking up the next hop information in a routing table for a packet with a multicast IP address. There is no mention in Boivie et al. of how next hop addresses or routes are distributed to routers within the network, much less the use of import and re-export filters as set forth in the claims. Boivie et al. therefore cannot anticipate any of the claims.

The rejection of claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 14, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being obvious in view of the combination of Boivie et al., and U.S. Patent No. Tahan, is respectfully traversed. As stated in M.P.E.P. §2143, a basic requirement for a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. For the same reasons Boivie et al. fail to anticipate claims 1, 6, 12, and 13, the combination of Boivie et al. and Tahan cannot meet all of the limitations of each of these claims.

The rejection of claims 4, 10 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being obvious in view of the combination of Boivie et al., and U.S. Patent No. 6,633,563 of Lin, is also respectfully traversed. For the same reasons Boivie et al. fail to anticipate claims 1, 6, 12, and 13, the combination of Boivie et al. and Lin cannot meet all of the limitations of each of these claims.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the rejections of claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, and 12-16 be withdrawn. It is noted with appreciation that claims 5, 7, 11 and 17 were objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten to avoid dependency on a rejected claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the arguments set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in allowable form. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees are due at this time. If this is incorrect, Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees, other than issue fees, that may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 07-0153. The Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's Attorney for any reasons that would advance the current application to issue. Please reference Attorney Docket No. 131105.1003.

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Respectfully submitted,
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